

ESSENCE STATEMENT

General Science investigates biological, physical and chemical phenomena. The science equips the learner with foundational skills and principles necessary for application in real life and industry. This learning area also deals with society's need to understand how the physical environment works in order to benefit from it and responsibly care for it. The learning area utilises scientific and technological knowledge which builds on the foundational concepts acquired from Integrated Science at Junior School. Teaching General Science at Senior School continues with the process of developing scientific knowledge and understanding of ideas developed in Integrated Science at Junior School.

The purpose of General Science is to develop competencies in the learner to solve societal and technological problems while taking care of the environment. The learning area seeks to equip learners with functional investigating skills relating to life science. Some of the skills relevant for the study of General Science include; classifying, communicating, measuring, designing an investigation, drawing and evaluating conclusions. The learner will need to formulate models, observe, hypothesise, identify and control variables, interpret data and make inferences based on scientific evidence. This aims at developing problem-solving and reflective skills. General Science promotes construction and application of scientific and technological knowledge; an understanding of the nature of science to make it applicable in real life situations. This will increase understanding of basic life principles and concepts, prepare student for post Senior School learning especially for the learner who will not require pure sciences.

These abilities can support students in navigating day to day life issues and are crucial for success in any field of study, employment or world of work. Consequently, studying General Science provides a platform for the learner who may develop interest in specialist learning such as sports science, applied science courses, talent based areas and vocational career paths. Knowledge, skills and attitude in General Science enables the learner to develop a sense of citizenship as well as environmental management and socio-economic development skills. General Science plays an increasingly important role in the lives of all learners owing to the influence on scientific and technological development, which are necessary for the country's economic growth and the social wellbeing of its people.

GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of Senior Secondary School, the learner should be able to:

- a) Relate General Science to technology and society to enhance the learners' appreciation of the environment.
- b) Select and use appropriate instruments to carry out basic science process skills to discover and explain the order of the environment.
- c) Apply basic research and scientific skills to manipulate the environment and solve human problems.
- d) Develop capacity for critical thinking through basic scientific skills and research in addressing pertinent & contemporary issues affecting the society.
- e) Apply scientific skills for enhancement of innovations and entrepreneurial skills for development.
- f) Use relevant skills and values to promote local and global citizenship for harmonious coexistence and appreciation of biodiversity.
- g) Acquire adequate knowledge, skills and attitudes to enhance exploitation of individual talents for leisure, self -fulfilment, career growth and for further education and training.
- h) Apply acquired knowledge, skills and attitudes for effective communication and utilisation of information in scientific advancement.